

Name _____

Introductory Resolution No. _____



SUFFOLK COUNTY OPEN SPACE RATING SYSTEM FOR NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS

This rating system for natural environments is designed to inform the recommendation and acquisition process for parcels of land that might be acquired with funds from the New Drinking Water Protection Program (effective December 1, 2007), or any of the other County open space programs that are designed for the protection of natural environments.

NEW DRINKING WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

If the property is being recommended for acquisition under the **New Drinking Water Protection Program (effective December 1, 2007)**, then it must meet at least one of the following criteria as per Section C12-2(A)(1):

- a. Freshwater/tidal wetlands and buffer lands for same ☐
- b. Lands within the watershed of a coastal stream as determined by a reasonable planning or hydrological study ☐
- c. Any tract of land located fully or partially within a statutorily designated Special Groundwater Protection Area ☐
- d. Lands determined by the County Division of Planning and Environment to be necessary for maintaining the quality of surface or groundwater in Suffolk County ☐
- e. Lands identified by the South Shore Estuary Reserve (SSER), Peconic Estuary Program (PEP), Narrow Bay Floodplain and/or the Long Island Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (LICMP) as needed to protect coastal water resources ☐
- g. Open Space ☐
- h. Wetlands, woodlands, pine barrens, and other lands which are suitable only for passive recreational use ☐

SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION REVIEW

Parcels of land that are subsequently acquired with funds from the New Drinking Water Protection Program (effective December 1, 2007) are transferred to the Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation (Parks) for maintenance and stewardship.

The Parks Commissioner's office:

☐ Recommends ☐ Does Not Recommend County Acquisition ☐ No Response Received

INTER-MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIP

The Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning reached out to the Town or Village of _____ on _____ to secure an inter-municipal cost-share agreement. As of _____, the Town has:

- ☐ Indicated verbally or electronically that they would provide a _____% match
- ☐ Passed a Town resolution approving the financial match
- ☐ Indicated they cannot provide a financial contribution at this time
- ☐ No response received


SUFFOLK COUNTY OPEN SPACE RATING SYSTEM FOR NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS

Score Subtotal

NATURAL RESOURCE CHARACTERISTICS
A. WETLANDS AND BUFFER AREAS

1. Site contains tidal or freshwater wetlands as identified by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation or local town/village approved maps. (> 50%=10pts.; between 50% and 25%=8pts.; less than 25%=6pts.) A site contains both tidal AND freshwater wetlands identified by NYS DEC or local town/village approved maps. (2 pts)		
2. Site enhances coastal resiliency and contains the buffer area of a tidal wetland (approx. 500 ft.) or freshwater wetland. (approx. 300 ft.) (5pts.)		
3. Site is located within a drainageway with at least one of the following soil types: At, Bd, Ca, De, Mu, ScB, SdA, SdB, Su, Tm, Wa, Wd, We, Wh. (2pts.)		

B. GROUND AND SURFACE WATER RESOURCES (Maximum of 10 Points)

1. Site is located within the Pine Barrens Core Area, Special Groundwater Protection Area (SGPA) or Subwatersheds Wastewater Plan Phase II Area. (10pts.)		
2. Site is located within Hydrogeologic Zone I or Zone III (deep aquifer recharge area), but not within the SGPA or Subwatersheds Wastewater Plan Phase II Area. (5pts.)		

C. NATURAL HABITAT

1. Site contains endangered (10 pts.), threatened (10 pts.) and/or special concern (5 pts.) species pursuant to Federal/New York State listings as identified under ECL Section 11-0535; regulation 6NYCRR Part 182.5.		
2. Site contains a New York State Natural Heritage Program Element(s) with a Global rank of G1, G2 or G3 and/or a State rank of S1, S2 or S3. (5pts.)		
3. Site contains an endangered, threatened, exploitably vulnerable or rare New York State Protected Native Plant species as identified under ECL Section 9-1503; regulation 6 NYCRR Part 193.3. (4pts.)		
4. Natural habitat diversity – Site contains multiple natural habitat cover types (ie. pine barrens, mature oak forest, wetland, maritime shrubland, etc. (Three or more=2pts, Two=1pt.)		

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS
A. GEOLOGICAL LANDFORMS AND BOUNDARIES

1. Site includes or is adjacent (approx. 300 ft.) to a waterbody such as an ocean/ bay/ sound/ pond/ lake/ river/ stream/ creek and/or proposed Blueway access point. (5pts.)		
2. Site contains a unique geological landform (ie. kettlehole, dune, bluff, escarpment, glacial erratic, other) or is located within a major swale area that contributes direct runoff to surface waters. (3pts.)		
3. Site contains more than one waterbody, geologic landform as identified in No. 1 and 2 above. (2pts.)		
4. Site is located within the FIRMs 100-year floodplain (V Zone) (2pts.) or within the FIRMs 100-year floodplain (A Zone) (1 pt.)		

B. SIZE (Maximum of 8 Points)

1. Over 25 acres OR Over 10 acres within a Census Designated Place of $\geq 1,000$ persons per square mile. (8pts.)		
2. Between 10 and 25 acres OR Between 5-10 acres within a Census Designated Place of $\geq 1,000$ persons per square mile. (6pts.)		
3. Between 5 and 10 acres OR Between 1-5 acres within a Census Designated Place of $\geq 1,000$ persons per square mile. (3pts.)		

C. LOCATION

1. Site is adjacent to County Parkland (7pts) or within 300 ft. of County Parkland with potential to become adjacent (5 pts).		
2. Parcel is located in a DEC Potential Environmental Justice Area or Parks Desert. (3pts)		
3. Site has been identified for environmental protection by an estuary program plan: Long Island Sound Study CCMP, Peconic Estuary Plan CCMP Narrow Bay Floodplain or the South Shore Estuary Reserve Plan CMP. (3pts.)		
4. Site is adjacent to or near (approx. 300 ft.) other protected parklands (ie. Federal, state, town, village, private* or is located within a New York State designated Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers corridor). (3pts.)		
5. Site is located within or adjacent to or near (approx. 300 ft.) to an existing or proposed trail alignment within the 2020 Suffolk County Hike-Bike Master Plan, or helps establish connection to these trails. (2pts)		
6. Site will provide special view from a high elevation, scenic roadway, major road corridor, etc. (2pts.)		

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

1. Inter-municipal stewardship management agreement with Federal, state, town, village and/or non-profit organization. (6 pts.)		
2. Inter-municipal cost share agreement with Federal, state, town, village, or private land trust. (County share less than 50% = 6pts; County share equal to 50% = 5pts; County share between 50-75% = 4pts)		

TOTAL SCORE (maximum = 100 points)

0

* Private open space includes privately-owned preserves and open space set aside via cluster development.